

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A manipulator-guided gripping device (1) for workpieces [[,]]  
and especially body parts in [[the]] a body shell, ~~wherein~~ the gripping device (1) ~~has~~ comprising:  
a plurality of ~~said~~ device parts (6, 7, 8) ~~and~~ ; a safety means (9) for detecting changes in  
geometry, ~~characterized in that the safety means (9) has~~ including at least one deflectable safety  
5 device (10) at the device parts (6, 7, 8).

2. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in~~  
~~that~~ wherein the deflectable safety device (10) is arranged at a junction point (23) between the  
device parts (6, 7, 7', 7'', 8).

3. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with claim 1 ~~or 2~~,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the deflectable safety device (10) has at least two said safety  
device parts (11, 12) that are mounted such that they can deflect along one or more axes in case  
of overload.

4. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the safety device parts (11, 12) are connected to one another by  
clamping connection and frictional connection.

5. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein the safety device parts (11, 12) are connected to one another in a positive-locking manner by at least one said deflectable locking element (13).

6. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the safety device parts (11, 12) are connected to a device part (6, 7, 7', 7'', 8) each.

7. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking element (13) is arranged between the safety device parts (11, 12).

8. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking element (13) is held with an elastic clamping element (20).

9. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking element (13) and the clamping element (20) are set to a force that holds the safety device parts (11, 12) during normal operation.

10. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the safety device parts (11, 12) are designed as a sphere

(15, 15<sup>a</sup>) and as a socket (14, 14<sup>a</sup>) surrounding same.

11. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sphere is designed as a joint ball (15) and the socket is designed as a straight tube section (14).

12. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sphere is designed as a ring-shaped collar (15<sup>a</sup>) with a spherical outer side and the socket is designed as a calotte (14<sup>a</sup>) surrounding same with an inner side rounded in a complementary manner.

13. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the collar (15<sup>a</sup>) and the calotte (14<sup>a</sup>) surrounding same have essentially the same width.

14. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with claim 3 ~~one of the claims 1 through 9~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the safety device parts (11, 12) are designed as ~~said~~ disk mounts (16, 17) with parallel working surfaces.

15. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the safety device parts (11, 12) have an adjusting means

(33) for reproducible mutual positioning.

16. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the safety device parts (11, 12) have one or more ~~said~~ detectors (24), which detect and signal deflections of the safety device parts (11, 12).

17. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the detector (24) is arranged eccentrically in relation to the central axis (38) of the safety device parts (11, 12).

18. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with claim 16 ~~one of the claims 1 through 16~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the detector (24) is arranged centrally in the central axis (38) of the safety device parts (11, 12) the safety device parts have an adjusting means for reproducible mutual positioning and the detector is designed as a part of the adjusting means (33).

19. (Currently Amended) A gripping ~~Deflectable safety~~ device in accordance with claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the detector (24) has a pressure piece (44), which is mounted in an elastically movable manner in an end-side tube section (43) of the shaft (37) and whose ~~said~~ projecting head part (45) engages a mount (47) at a projection (39) of the other safety device part (11) in a positive-locking manner, wherein a microswitch (48) is arranged at the

contact point.

20. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the detectors (24) are connected to a process control (26).

21. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that the gripping device (1) has~~ further comprising: a frame (4) with one or more said gripping or clamping elements (6) and with a docking point (5) for connection to a mechanical manipulator (2), ~~especially in the form of~~ especially in the form of a multiaxial industrial robot.

22. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the frame (4) has a plurality of said frame tubes (7, 8).

23. (Currently Amended) A gripping device in accordance with claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the frame tubes (7, 8) are divided; and wherein a deflectable safety device (10) is arranged between the tube sections (7<sup>I</sup>, 7<sup>III</sup>).